

The Legislators

WORKINGS OF THE LEGISLATURE AND
SENATE AT THE STATE CAPITOL.

In the House.

The fish and oyster bill was called up in the house Monday by Crockett (Washington) and after an amendment offered by Terrell (Bexar) was voted down, was passed finally.

The circus tax bill by Nelson (Hopkins) was called up, but the question was raised by Jenkins that the law would not be constitutional, as it was not embraced within the purview of the governor's call for the special session.

The position was taken that if the bill was passed and signed by the governor this would be tantamount to being included in his call, so far as the legality of its passage was concerned.

On motion of Nelson (Hopkins), who declared that if the bill was passed without any question as to its becoming an enforceable law and who stated that he would see if he could get the governor to embrace it in the list of measures demanded by the call, the further consideration of the bill was deferred until Wednesday afternoon.

The Robertson-Pittsburgh bill amending the Baskin-McGregor liquor law was postponed.

Herrell (Cherokee) called up his bill providing for ascertaining the ownership of bonds to list them for taxation.

Moller moved to strike out the enacting clause.

Terrell (Cherokee) was recognized to speak in opposition to the amendment of Moller striking out the enacting clause of his bill providing for the ascertaining of bond ownership for the purpose of taxation.

Kennedy favored the amendment and opposed the bill.

The house passed resolutions upon the death of L. J. Storey.

In the House.

In the house Saturday the fish and oyster bill, which is a platform measure, was engrossed, and the bank guarantee bill was further considered. The proceedings upon this latter measure consisted entirely of a speech by Mr. Nickells in favor of his substitute and against the so-called Love bill. It is universally conceded to be the most notable speech made in this legislature. Mr. Nickells is a quiet, unassuming, Hill county raised young man, yet in the twenties. He has had very little to say since the legislature opened, but Saturday he turned loose in an exposition of the constitution and a denunciation of executive or departmental interference with the legislature, which make the membership sit up and take notice. At the conclusion of his speech the house, by a narrow margin, voted to adjourn.

New Bills in the House.

The following bills were introduced in the house Saturday:

By Mr. Brookshire—Providing for the full rendition of notes and bonds for taxation, requiring the holder of same to pay taxes thereon.

By Mr. Brownlee—Providing for the application of rules similar to those of the Terrell election law to local option elections, replacing the bill to the same effect previously introduced at this session.

By Mr. Stamps—Declaring selma a public nuisance; providing for the destruction of same and such other implements as may be used for the catching of fish.

Appropriate and Vacate Petition.

A petition addressed to the honorable speaker and members of the state legislature from Orange and asking for the immediate adjournment of that body, also advocating the idea of fewer and better laws, is being circulated among the local citizens. The petition, which was signed by a large number of voters, was forwarded to Austin Saturday.

After roll call in the house Friday morning, Ray sought to place on the calendar his and Nickells' bank guaranty bills, both of which were reported adversely by the committee on banking, and brought out by favorable minority report by the authors.

Mobley, backed up by Rayburn, Gaines and Fitzhugh, raised a merry war over the proposition.

Ray claimed that the bills were already before the house, but the chair ruled that inasmuch as they had been ordered printed before the committee considered them, it would require a motion to get them on the calendar.

Ray moved that the bills be not printed, which motion Mobley moved to table, which prevailed, 45 to 46.

Davis agreed with the chair, holding that the bills had not been ordered printed with a view to getting them on the calendar, but for the convenience of the members. He thought they should be considered, however, and have equal weight with the Cureton-Mobley bill.

Bills Signed by Governor.

The governor signed the following bills Friday:

Amending Dallas city charter to authorize issuance of sewer bonds.

In the Senate.

The Stokes' citation bill, which passed the senate at the regular session, was taken up and finally passed Monday.

The Harper bill, regulating the procedure in the appellate courts and providing for the filing of the original statement of facts as a part of the record on appeal and writ of error from all courts, civil and criminal, was taken up.

Senator's amendment was adopted, inserting the words "of record" after the word "courts," where it appears in the bill.

Senator, Menchum and Alexander's amendment, providing for writs of error "to the civil or criminal appeals courts or to the supreme court," was adopted.

Senator offered an amendment providing that in the event the statement of facts shall be required for use as testimony in the trial of any cause, it shall be the duty of the appellate court in which the same is filed, upon application therefor, to make such orders with respect thereto as the applicant may show to be necessary.

Veale opposed the amendment and moved that it be tabled.

Terrell (Bowling) favored the amendment.

Senator Alexander offered a substitute for the pending amendment by Senator, which was agreed to by both those assenting to and dissenting from the original amendment by substituting the following:

"In the event it becomes necessary to use any part of said original statement of facts in the trial of any cause, then either party at interest shall, on application to the clerk of such appellate court, have the right to a certified copy of such statement of facts or any part thereof, which shall be received in evidence in all cases in which the original would be received and the clerk of such court shall have the same fees for such copy as now provided by law for a stenographer for making such a statement of facts."

The substitute for the amendment was adopted.

The senate passed resolutions upon the death of Col. L. J. Storey.

The senate Saturday evening up the record with the house by passing two important bills and one little one and by killing two other important ones.

The important bills passed were the bill appropriating \$25,000 to enable the attorney general to prosecute suits in behalf of the state, the prime purpose of which is to assist in the trial of suits for the recovery of land alleged to belong to the school fund, and the board of health bill. This latter measure was amended in many particulars, notably by providing that the sanitation code to be formulated by the board shall not become effective until approved by the governor. It is probable that the house will now take up and consider this bill instead of its own measure upon the same subject.

Incorporation of Surety Companies.

Senators Peeler and Watson Saturday introduced a bill allowing surety companies to organize, exchange information concerning their business and consider and fix rates.

Judge H. J. Hendricks of the Thirty-first judicial district has sent in his resignation to the governor, effective June 28.

Iron Safe Clause Modified.

The insurance bill by Mr. Vaughan, providing that in cases where insurance companies fail to pay losses and are sued they shall pay court costs, and which modifies the iron safe clause to a considerable extent, was given a favorable report by the house committee on insurance Saturday.

Rev. J. M. McCurdy of Brownwood opened the senate with prayer Friday morning.

The senate unanimously adopted a resolution of thanks to the citizens of Uvalde.

On motion of Holsey, pending business was suspended and his bill creating an experiment station in the Second senatorial district (formerly represented by Thomas of Hopkins) was taken up. He explained his position in submitting the measure (having voted against all similar ones) by saying that he did not believe the house would pass them any way and he thought that as the people of the Second district were not represented, the compliment should be paid them, if it was only a compliment after all.

On motion of Hume pending business was suspended, and in consecutive order two bills by Masterson and himself, relating to the criminal district court of Harris and Galveston counties, were finally passed. Their third bill on this subject was engrossed.

Mayfield thought the position of Senator Holsey rather unique in that he took so much interest in this district, and did not even offer a measure for having a station located in his own district.

Why the Menu Was Changed.

The culinary department of an East Indian household, if the story of an American traveler who has recently returned from Calcutta is to be believed, is managed far differently from an American kitchen. "Here we employ an Ethiopian expert at so much a week," says the Philadelphia Record. "There a cook would disdain to place a weekly valuation on his services. His conditions involve a flat rate of so many shillings weekly for the furnishing and preparation of provisions. This system of putting the culinary department out to contract causes a penuriousness on the part of the chef which frequently is not for the best health and welfare of the household. Shortly before last Christmas the above named American tourist had ordered his cook to have steak for dinner. Broiled chicken was served instead. Pressed for his reasons for disregarding the command of the head of the household, the cook explained that the chicken had taken sick and if it had not been killed and served that day he was afraid he would have lost it."

Conscientious Bill.

"Bill had charge of the animal tent," said the old circus man, "and among his pets was a leopard, the only one we had with the show, and quite enough too. This leopard gave Bill more trouble than all the rest of the menagerie put together. It was certainly an ugly brute."

"Well, one day when we were showing in the Midlands I had come up to London to arrange about some advance business. I was eating my dinner in the hotel when a telegram was handed to me. It was from Bill and read: 'The leopard has escaped. Prowling about town. What shall I do?'"

"That was just like Bill. He had to have explicit directions, even in an emergency like this. He didn't want to make a mistake."

"I immediately wired back to Bill. 'Shoot him on the spot.' I didn't think any more about it until a couple of hours later, when I received another telegram from conscientious, careful Bill, asking, 'Which spot?'"

Relative Hardness of Precious Stones.

The relative hardness of various stones is easily determined by testing the power of one stone to make scratches on another. If a diamond is rubbed with one of the points of a topaz, the topaz point is blunted and the mark which will be seen on the face of the diamond is only the dust of the topaz, which can be brushed off with the finger. But if the topaz is rubbed against the diamond the latter is unaltered and the surface of the former is marked with a scratch which can be removed only by further polishing down. It is on the basis of this process of comparison that a scale of comparative hardness has been formed represented by ten substances, of which diamond is the highest and graphite the lowest in the scale. It is a curious fact that these two extremes of the scale, the brilliant and hard diamond and soft black graphite, are both chemically the same substance—pure carbon.—Jewelers' Circular.

Good Reason.

It was a kindly custom in a certain village for the wealthier inhabitants to make good the loss which a poorer villager might sustain through the death of a pig. Old Major Currie, however, had but recently returned from India; he therefore was astounded at receiving a visit from a laborer's wife. "Lost a pig, eh?" he repeated gruffly. "Well, I haven't got it. I don't collect pigs."

"Beggin' your pardon, sir," faltered the woman; "but, you see, the pig died."

"Well, d'ye want me to go to the funeral, send a wreath, or what, woman?" he fumed.

"Oh, no, sir; indeed, no," was the reply. "But we're poor folks, sir, and we thought that, being the biggest pig in the neighborhood, you'd give us a little 'elp.'—London Tit-Bits.

Refusing the Cure.

"Cultivate the acquaintance of women if you can," said the woman to the girl. "Surround yourself by women. They are certain protection against calamity. Women who have many women friends are never so awfully much talked about. It's policy."

"Is that what you have done?" asked the girl quietly.

"No," answered the woman. "You know it isn't. I'd rather be dead than to have to associate with women."—New York Press.

A Light Burden.

A frail little slip of a girl with a sweet, worn face totted up the hill under the weight of a robust infant who must have weighed nearly as much as she did.

"My dear child," exclaimed a sympathetic passerby, "you ought not to carry that big baby. Isn't he dreadfully heavy?"

"Heavy? Why, no, indeed, ma'am," she smiled. "He's my brother!"—De-linestor.

Realistic.

She (at the musicale)—Miss Schreecher sings with wonderful realism. Don't you think so? He—Yes; you can almost see the crack in her voice.—Detroit Saturday Night.

A Restless Breed.

Mr. Sickham—No, sirree, money wouldn't buy that dog. He's a cross between a St. Bernard and—Mr. Peevey (who is not enthusiastic)—And a St. Vitus?—Puck.

In conversation confidence has a greater share than wit.—Rochefort-cauld.

Heard at Breakfast.

"I used to be a weather prophet in my home town," confided the new boarder as he speared a potato with his fork.

"Sh!" commented the comedian boarder laconically.

"Yes, and every time I look at that steak it reminds me of a winter's day."

"How so?"

"Cold and raw."

"Quite clever. How does the coffee strike you?"

"That reminds me of a November day—cloudy and unsettled."

"Good. And do you notice that the landlady is watching us?"

"Yes, and she reminds me of a March day."

"Tell us why."

"Because—he is cold and stormy."

And the look that the landlady passed down to that end of the table would have congealed a red-hot stove.—Chicago News.

Lincoln's Speeches and Writings.

Lincoln's great speeches are short, but how fit in expression, how packed with meaning! Take, for example, the one delivered to his friends on the eve of his departure for Washington. Like the second inaugural or the address at Gettysburg, it contains no superfluous word. Every one fits into place as perfectly as the carpenter's braces and timbers into the completed building.

As a writer, Mr. Lincoln was most painstaking. He sought always the simplest, shortest and best word. He knew that the simplest and shortest word usually is the best. The real secret of his greatness as a speaker and a writer, however, lay deeper. It was the supreme greatness of his soul which shone through his words that charmed and still charms the world.—J. A. Edgerton.

The Insanity Plea.

"Sir," said the young woman, with what seemed to be indignation.

The young man looked embarrassed.

"Yes, I did kiss you," he admitted, "but I was impulsively insane."

"That means that a man would be a lunatic to kiss me?"

"Well, any man of discretion would be just crazy to kiss you."

This seemed to ease the strain, and, no jury being present to muddle affairs, a satisfactory verdict was reached.—Philadelphia Ledger.

She Admitted It.

"What do you ask for this plaque?" inquired an old gentleman of the pretty girl in charge of a church bazaar.

"One guinea," she replied.

"Aren't you a little dear?" queried the old gentleman.

"Well," answered the pretty girl, blushing, "that's what the boys all tell me."

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Wilson Rye, was \$1.50 now 1.25	Beach Grove Rye, was \$1.50 now 1.00
Hunter Rye, was \$1.50 now 1.25	Willow Grove Rye, was \$1.50 now 1.00
Walker's Canadian Club, was \$1.75 now 1.35	Imported French Cognac, was \$2.50 now 1.75
Black and White Scotch imported whiskey, was \$2.00 now 1.50	Pure Peach and Apple Brandy, was \$1.50 now 1.00
Duffy's Pure Malt for old folks, was \$1.00 now .98	Pure Blackberry Wine, was \$1.50 now 1.00
Belle of Lexington, bottled in bond, was \$1.25 now 1.00	

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